



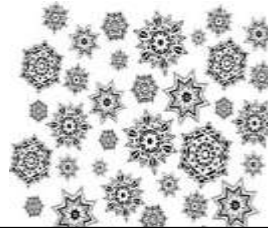
November  
December 2011

## SAFETY TIP

### Child Safety During the Holiday Season

Although Child Safety is a 365 day a year concern, a number of child safety issues directly relate to the holiday season. From November through December families are engaged in multiple events and continuous functions including school and, community activities, family gatherings and traveling. As fun and exciting as this time of year can be for children and adults alike, it also brings with it stress, distraction, and exhaustion. As a result, it is important we are extra cautious in knowing where children are, who they are with, and what they are doing at any given time. It only takes a moment for a family or child to experience an unintended consequence of the holiday season.

Awareness of child safety as it relates to public settings such as shopping in a mall or a community activity where there are crowded conditions with a large number of people require parents to be vigilant



Ensuring your child's safety can help you and your family have a joyful, festive, and happy holiday season.

in their efforts. Prior to leaving home for a shopping trip or community activity, make sure you have discussed a plan with your child in the event you are separated from them. Teach children to go to a store clerk or security guard or another adult with children. Also ensure your child can communicate their first and last name to someone if they are indeed separated from you.

If holiday decorating is a part of your family tradition, please keep small children out of the area while decorations are being installed. Take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable. Also remember to avoid decorations resembling food

or candy when there are small children in the home as they may be tempted to eat the decoration. Remove all wrapping papers, bags and ribbons promptly after gifts are unwrapped. These items pose suffocation and choking hazards to a small child or can ignite a heat source.

Also remember the homes you will be visiting may not be child proofed and will require you to pay extra attention to your child's whereabouts at all times. (ex: guns, poisons, cleaning solutions, medications, etc).

#### Special Points of Interest

[Making the Holidays Safe](#)

[Keep Your Child Safe During the Holiday Season](#)

[How to Keep Children Safer While Shopping and Traveling During the Holiday Season](#)

[Holiday Decoration Safety Tips](#)